

SECOND SECTION —

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Legal Action Slated Against Trash Dump

The Kitsap County Commissioners, discovering yesterday that they hadn't gotten very far in enforcing their week-old closure order on Ames Trash Dump on the New Belfair Highway, have told County Sanitarian Joe Weigel to commence legal action at the earliest possible moment.

Weigel and County Prosecutor Myron Freyd were to discuss the approach to be taken, but apparently nothing can be done until tomorrow, since the county courthouse is closed today.

The commissioners noted yesterday that they have received a letter from an attorney for the dump operators, Kenneth Crawford and Mel Marler, asking for a meeting.

That's fine with him, Commissioner Gene Lobe said, but he wants legal proceedings to begin anyway.

"We've given them every possible chance to comply (with health department regulations)," Lobe said, "and every possible chance to meet with

us." He said he didn't want legal action to enforce the closure order to be held up on the chance something can be worked out in such a meeting.

"If we can't enforce this, we can't enforce anything," Lobe said, in calling for an immediate start to legal action. His two fellow commissioners agreed and the order was issued.

The commissioners expressed disappointment in the Navy's lack of concern over the closure order. Dumping from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is generally felt to be what has brought the wrath of the dump's neighbors down on the heads of the dump operators since July.

The question of whether the Navy will honor the closure order and quit dumping at Ames, or even if it can, is in the hands of legal officers at Seattle's Pier 91, Weigel told the commissioners yesterday.

PSNS officials have told him their only interest in the matter is one of "curiosity," Weigel related.

Meanwhile, it's business as usual at the dump. Marler told The Sun yesterday he has received dozens of phone calls from persons wanting to know if they can continue to dump there, and he has been telling them there's been no change in the operation.

Marler and Crawford both have said they will fight the closure order in the courts.

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